

REMARKS

Claim 1-20 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 21-36 have been added and are pending.

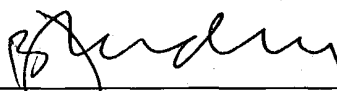
Acknowledgement of receipt of the priority document in the Patent Office is requested in the Examiner's first Action. See, attached copy of Notification of Acceptance of Application from parent Serial No. 09/331,885, as evidence of the same.

An early and favorable Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:plb
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100